GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:191
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2003
SURRENDER OF BSNL LAND-LINE PHONES
BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of land-line subscribers of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) have surrendered their phones during the year 2001-2002 and 2002-03;

(b) if so; the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise;

(c) the steps being taken to retrieve the situation; and

(d) the extent of revenue loss as a result thereof, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SMT. SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The state wise details of surrenders of telephones are given in the annexure. The main reasons for surrenders are as under:-
i) Switching over from land line to cellular & WLL phones. Perhaps the subscribers want to avail these recently introduced services because of their additional features/facilities.
ii) Surrendering of extra telephones due to improved reliability of phones.
iii) Downturn in economy.

(c) To retrieve the situation BSNL is now providing additional phone plus facilities free of cost. Also some other facilities which are now available on cellular phones are also being planned for land line subscribers.

(d) Despite the surrender of telephones, the subscriber base of BSNL has increased by 53 lakhs in 2001-02 and 29.25 lakhs this year so far. The land lines getting spare due to surrender of phones are being utilized to give telephone connections to other wait listed applicants. Thus there is no revenue loss in real terms.

ANNEXURE
State-wise details of disconnections of telephones

Sl. No.	Name of States	+DELs disconnected during 2001-02	+DELs disconnected from 1.4.2002 to 31.1.2003
1	Andaman & Nicobar	1381	1115
2	Andhra Pradesh	289154	252376
3	Assam	6112	7652
4	Bihar	38176	12148
5	Chhattisgarh	13933	14359
6	Gujarat	136512	145697
7	Haryana	15788	25711
8	Himachal Pradesh	3184	4949
9	Jammu & Kashmir	2946	6755
10	Jharkhand	5009	14256
11	Karnataka	216753	151399
12	Kerala	43778	45278
13	Madhya Pradesh	56374	45417
14	Maharashtra	132722	205800
15	Goa	3208	5607
	Total for Maharashtra Circle	135930	211407
16	Meghalaya	1822	1294
17	Mizoram	226	772
18	Tripura	730	2242

-

Total for North East -I
Circle 2778 4308
19 Arunachal Pradesh 6066 2890
20 Manipur 4245 2022
21 Nagaland 4854 2312
Total for North
East -II Circle 15165 7224
22 Orissa 15536 36648
23 Punjab 23310 45956
24 Rajasthan 42681 49708
25 Tamilnadu Circle 139981 201072

Chennai Telecom 33860 58709

Total for Tamilnadu 173841 259781
26 Uttaranchal 9472 10093
27 Uttar Pradesh(E) Circle28261 66403

Uttar Pradesh(W) Circle37088 29937

Total for Uttar Pradesh65349 96340
28 West Bengal Circle 8658 8999

Kolkata Telecom 31558 81474

Total for West Bengal 40216 90473
29 Sikkim 34 11

BSNL 1353412 1539061

Note: - - DELs disconnected contains figures for surrender of phones by subscribers on their ownand phones disconnected by the Department due to non payment.